

Exhibit B
Certification of Nicholas Goldin

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*Counsel for the Board of Each of PG&E Corporation
and Pacific Gas and Electric Company and for
Certain Current and Former Independent Directors*

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

In re:

PG&E CORPORATION,

- and -

**PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY,**

Debtors.

- ☐ Affects PG&E Corporation
☐ Affects Pacific Gas and Electric Company
☒ Affects both Debtors

** All papers shall be filed in the Lead Case No.
19-30088 (DM).*

Bankruptcy Case
No. 19-30088 (DM)

Chapter 11

(Lead Case)

(Jointly Administered)

**CERTIFICATION OF NICHOLAS
GOLDIN IN SUPPORT OF FOURTH
INTERIM AND FINAL APPLICATION
OF SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT
LLP FOR ALLOWANCE AND
PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION AND
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES
FOR THE FOURTH INTERIM PERIOD
OF JANUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH JULY
1, 2020 AND THE FINAL PERIOD
FROM JANUARY 29, 2019 THROUGH
JULY 1, 2020**

1 I, Nicholas Goldin, hereby certify that:

2 1. I am a partner with the applicant firm, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
3 (“**Simpson Thacher**”), and involved in Simpson Thacher’s representation of (i) the Board of
4 Directors (the “**Board**”) of each of PG&E Corporation and Pacific Gas and Electric Company
5 (the “**Debtors**”), as the Board may be constituted from time to time, and for the members of the
6 Board from time to time in their capacities as members of the Board, and (ii) certain current and
7 former independent directors in their individual capacities who serve or served as independent
8 directors prior to and/or as of the Petition Date (as defined below) (each an “**Independent**
9 **Director**” and collectively, the “**Independent Directors**”) in connection with the above-
10 referenced chapter 11 cases (the “**Chapter 11 Cases**”).

11 2. I am familiar with the *Order Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 331 and 105(a) and*
12 *Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2016 for Authority to Establish Procedures for Interim Compensation and*
13 *Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals dated February 27, 2019* [Docket No. 701] (the
14 “**Interim Compensation Order**”), the *Guidelines for Compensation and Expense*
15 *Reimbursement of Professionals and Trustees for the Northern District of California effective*
16 *February 19, 2014* (the “**Local Guidelines**”), the *U.S. Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing*
17 *Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by*
18 *Attorneys in Larger Chapter 11 Cases, effective November 1, 2013* (the “**UST Guidelines**”), and
19 the *Revised Fee Examiner Protocol* dated October 24, 2019 [Docket No. 4473]] (as approved
20 and modified by the *Second Amended Order Granting Fee Examiner’s Motion to Approve Fee*
21 *Procedures*, dated January 30, 2020 [Docket No. 5572] (the “**Second Amended Fee Procedures**
22 **Order**”) (the “**Fee Examiner Protocol**,” and, together with the Local Guidelines, collectively,
23 the “**Fee Guidelines**”).

24 3. This Certification is made in connection with Simpson Thacher’s Fourth
25 Interim and Final Application, dated August 28, 2020 (the “**Application**”)¹ for allowance and

26 _____
27 ¹ Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Application.

1 payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses for the interim period commencing
2 January 1, 2020 through and including July 1, 2020 (the “**Fourth Interim Compensation**
3 **Period**”) and for allowance and payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses on a
4 final basis for the period commencing January 29, 2019 through and including July 1, 2020 (the
5 “**Total Compensation Period**”).

6 4. Pursuant to the Local Guidelines, I certify that:

7 a. I have read the Application

8 b. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed after
9 reasonable inquiry, except as set forth in the Application, the fees and
10 disbursements sought are consistent with the Fee Guidelines;

11 c. The fees and disbursements sought are billed at rates in accordance with
12 those generally charged by Simpson Thacher and generally accepted by
13 Simpson Thacher’s clients.

14 5. I certify that the Debtors, counsel for each of the Official Committees, and
15 the U.S. Trustee are each being provided with a copy of the Application in accordance with the
16 Interim Compensation Order.

17 6. Exhibit C to the Application compares the blended hourly rate billed by
18 attorneys and paraprofessionals in Simpson Thacher’s domestic offices to non-bankruptcy
19 matters during the prior twelve (12) month rolling period with blended hourly rate billed by
20 attorneys and paraprofessionals to the Debtors in connection with the Chapter 11 Cases during
21 the Fourth Interim Compensation Period.² Simpson Thacher does not charge a premium for
22 bankruptcy related services as compared to other services.

23 7. Simpson Thacher responds to the questions identified in the UST
24 Guidelines as follows:

25
26 ² Simpson Thacher has previously provided this comparison with respect to the periods covered by each of the First,
27 Second and Third Interim Applications, respectively, in such Applications.

1 8. Question 1: Did Simpson Thacher agree to any variations from, or
2 alternatives to, Simpson Thacher's standard or customary billing rates, fees or terms for services
3 pertaining to this engagement that were provided during the Fourth Interim Compensation Period
4 or Total Compensation Period? If so, please explain.

- 5 a. Answer: Yes. By agreement with the Debtors, Simpson Thacher deferred
6 implementation of its normal step rate increases for attorneys advancing in
7 seniority, which increases customarily would have taken effect in
8 September, and normal rate increases for all professionals, which
9 increases customarily would have taken effect on January. Instead, the
10 billing rates for all professionals have remained unchanged since Simpson
11 Thacher's retention.

12 9. Question 2: If the fees sought in the Application as compared to the fees
13 budgeted for the time period covered by the Application are higher by 10% or more, did
14 Simpson Thacher discuss the reasons for the variation with the client?

- 15 a. Answer: The fees sought in the Application do not exceed by 10% or more
16 the aggregate fees budgeted for Simpson Thacher for the Fourth Interim
17 Compensation Period.

18 10. Question 3: Have any of the professionals included in the Application
19 varied their hourly rate based on geographic location of the Chapter 11 Cases?

- 20 a. Answer: No.

21 11. Question 4: Does the Application include time or fees related to reviewing
22 or revising time records or preparing, reviewing or revising invoices? If so, please quantify by
23 hours and fees.

- 1 a. Answer: Yes. Simpson Thacher personnel have spent approximately 60
2 hours and \$70,000 in time and fees related to preparing, reviewing and/or
3 revising the time records or invoices for the Fourth Interim Compensation
4 Period of January 1, 2020 – July 1, 2020.³

5
6 12. Question 5: Does the Application include time or fees for reviewing time
7 records to redact any privileged or other confidential information? If so, please quantify hours
8 and fees.

- 9 a. Answer: Yes. The time and fees related to reviewing for privileged or
10 confidential information is included in the amount of time and fees related
11 to preparing, reviewing and/or revising the time records or invoices
12 referenced in the Answer to Question 4.⁴

13
14 13. Question 6. Does the Application include any rate increases since
15 Simpson Thacher's retention in this case? If so, did the client review and approve the rate
16 increases in advance? Did the client agree when retaining the law firm to accept all future rate
17 increases?

- 18 a. Answer. The Application does not include any rate increases since
19 Simpson Thacher's retention. The Debtors have been advised that
20 Simpson Thacher customarily increases its rates for attorneys advancing in
21 seniority in September, and customarily increases rates for all
22
23

24
25 ³ Simpson Thacher has previously provided this disclosure with respect to the periods covered by each of the First,
Second and Third Interim Applications, respectively, in such Applications.

26 ⁴ Simpson Thacher has previously provided this disclosure with respect to the periods covered by each of the First,
27 Second and Third Interim Applications, respectively, in such Applications.

professionals in January. However, as noted in the Answer to Question 1,
such rate increases were deferred and are therefore not reflected in this
Application.

Dated: August 28, 2020
New York, New York

/s/ Nicholas Goldin
Nicholas Goldin